Horsham Blueprint Business Neighbourhood Forum *DRAFT No.3 - 03/11/2024*

Notes of Steering Group Meeting held on Monday 28th October 2024 at 7.30pm.

Held at the Millennium Hall, Roffey, Horsham.

1.00 - Attendees and Apologies

1.01 - Attendees : John Steele, Trudie Mitchell, Diane Sumpter, Ruth Fletcher, Francis Vernon, & Ron Bates.

1.02 - Apologies were received from - Morag Warrack, John White, Malcolm Gilbert, & Andrew Cooke.

1.03 - John Steele opened the meeting by welcoming everyone.

2.0 - Notes of the last meeting

2.01 - John Steele asked if there are comments on the notes of the meeting on 24th September 2024.

There were no comments and the notes of the meeting held on the 24th September 2024 (Draft No.3) were approved by all present with no amendments.

3.0 - Town Council - Governance Review

3.1 - John Steele said that further to the discussion at the last Steering Group meeting the chair of each Neighbourhood Council said that they would discuss the Town Council Governance Review with their respective councilors before voting on this proposal. John Steele asked the outcome of these discussions. Morag Warrack had let John Steele know that Trafalgar NC supported the proposal.

3.2 - Both Trudie Mitchell and Diane Sumpter confirmed that discussions with their respective councilor's had taken place. Both Trudie Mitchell and Diane Sumpter confirmed that Denne and Forest are prepared to support the proposal of making application to Horsham District Council for a community governance review covering the unparished area of Horsham with a view to the establishment of a town council. However both Neighbourhood Councils expressed reservations about the procedure and had concerns about the costs to residents in the future.

3.3 - John Steele read out a prepared proposal that the Horsham Blueprint Business Neighbourhood Forum should submit an application under Sec 80A of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 to the Horsham District Council for a community governance review covering the unparished area of Horsham town, that is Denne, Forest and Trafalgar Neighbourhoods, with a view to the establishment of a town council.

3.4 - This proposal was agreed by all present, with Ruth Fletcher declaring a conflict of interest and did not vote. John Steele will submit the application to HDC.,

3.5 - Trudie Mitchell put forward the name of the Horsham Association of Local Councils (HALC) as an organisation that maybe able set out what is involved in a town council and that Trevor Leggo in particular maybe able to assist with explaining the process of becoming a town council.

3.5 - John Steele said that HDC will set out how the governance review will be carried out and once this is known we can discuss how to proceed.

4.0 - Governance process for handling CIL

4.1 - John Steele informed the meeting that HDC has arranged a meeting on 11th November 2024 to discuss the process for handling CIL. The invitees are Trudie Mitchell (Denne), Diane Sumpter

(Forest), Mark Francis (Trafalgar), John Steele and Ron Bates (Blueprint). Ruth Fletcher said that Tony Franklin would likely chair the meeting and that she expected to attend the meeting but was unsure in what capacity.

5.0 - Insurance

5.1 - Discussion took place as to why insurance was needed for Blueprint activities, which included insurance being requested by St Mary's for the Causeway Barn hall hire for the Blueprint AGM on the 5th December 2025.

5.2 - It was agreed that insurance will be obtained for Blueprint. Diane Sumpter will check on the details of the insurance obtained by the Horsham Town Community Partnership, and Ron Bates will check on the details of the insurance obtained by the Horsham Society and forward this to Diane Sumpter.

6.0 Blueprint AGM

6.1 - John Steele confirmed that the Causeway Barn has been booked for the Blueprint AGM on the evening of Thursday 5th December 2024 from 7.00pm to 9.30pm.

6.2 - It was agreed to provide tea and coffee and biscuits from 7.15pm with the meeting to start at 7.30pm and finish at 9.00pm.

6.3 - Volunteers will be needed from 7.00pm to set out the chairs and re-stack them after the meeting at 9.00pm so we can clear the building by 9.30pm.

6.4 - Diane Sumpter agreed to provide the refreshments including biscuits. Ron Bates and Francis Vernon agreed to help with serving the refreshments.

6.5 - John Steele agreed to produce an invitation to the Blueprint AGM for members and invited

guests.

6.6 - John Steele said that an agenda needs to be agreed for the Blueprint AGM. Discussion followed and it was agreed the agenda would include the following:-

Welcome - John Steele

Election of officers and members of the Steering Group - John Steele

Financial review - Diane Sumpter

Update report on the governance process for handling CIL - John Steele

Update report on the town council governance review - John Steele

Non-policy actions update -

London Road improvements - Francis Vernon

Forest area proposed for 20mph speed limit - Francis Vernon

Riverside Walk through Rookwood - Ron Bates

Riverside Walk through Mowbray, North of Horsham - Ron Bates

Housing Trust - Andrew Cooke

Questions - John Steele

Close - John Steele

7.0 - Local Plan Examination

7.1 - John Steele confirmed that Blueprint had submitted comments on the Local Plan to HDC and there were no additional points to be raised in response to Matters, Issues and Questions (MIQ's) from the Inspector examining the Local Plan. Following discussion it was agreed by the Steering Group members present that as there was nothing further to add to the Blueprint submission there is no need to attend the examination meetings.

8.0 - Update on Neighbourhood Plan Non-Policy Actions

8.1 - John Steele started the discussion on the Neighbourhood Plan Non-Policy Actions.

8.2 - Ruth Fletcher talked of the hopes to increase the public access to the area around and through Rookwood Golf Course as it was the residents and local groups that helped protect this green space from possible development. Ruth Fletcher talked of the proposal to arrange a meeting with the interested parties and groups within a few weeks, during November 2024, to discuss what can be achieved.

8.3 - The proposed London Road improvements iarea s being visited by George Fort of WSCC Assistant Area Highway Manager to review what can be progressed.

8.4 - John Steele reported that Trafalgar NC had submitted their proposals for a 20mph speed limit zone in their area.

8.5 - The 20mph speed restriction area in Forest bounded by Brighton Road / St Leonards Road / Comptons Lane / Harwood Road and the Railway Line is still under discussion.

8.6 - John Steele expressed his view that Denne Road would benefit from a speed restriction of 20mph, this area would likely need to include Queensway.

9.0 - Treasurer's Report

9.01 - Diane Sumpter reported that there is £2,248.35 in the Blueprint account which earned a little interest.

9.02 - Diane Sumpter reported that the hall hire for tonight's meeting of £24.20 will be paid from this account.

9.03 - John Steele reported that the Causeway Barn hall hire costs for the AGM will be forwarded to Diane Sumpter for payment.

9.04 - Following discussion it was agreed that Diane Sumpter will submit a request on behalf of Blueprint for the £2000 toward running costs during 2025 to be paid from the Special Charge

10.0 - Any Other Business

10.1 - None

11.0 Date of Next Meeting

11.1 - The next Blueprint Steering Group meeting will take place on Tuesday 28th January 2025 starting at 7.30pm.

11.2 - Diane Sumpter agreed to book the room in the Blackbridge Community Centre if available, if not then book the Amberley Room at the Millennium Hall, Roffey.

The meeting finished at 8.45pm